

CLAIM AMENDMENTS AND LISTING

1. (currently amended) A cage comprising:

a side panel assembly including a plurality of side panels, each of said side panels being attached to adjacent ones of said side panels with at least first and second a ~~plurality of~~ fastening elements, said first fastening elements including:

a first pin extending from a first ~~a bottom of one corner of one~~ of said panels; and

an apertured plate extending from a second ~~a bottom corner of an adjacent one~~ of said panels for reception of said first pin; and

said second fastening element including:

a second, headed pin secured to one of said first and second panels; and

a key slot disposed in the other of said first and second ~~an adjacent one of said~~ panels for reception of said second, headed pin.

2. (original) The cage of claim 1, wherein each of said panels includes a vertical slot in a vertical frame tube thereof and said fastening elements further include a locking clip having a first leg for insertion into one of said vertical slots in one of said panels and a second leg for insertion into one of said vertical slots in an adjacent one of said panels;

whereby, said adjacent panels are prevented from moving vertically relative to one another by said locking clip.

3. (original) The cage of claim 1, wherein said first pin has a length that facilitates partial insertion of said pin into said aperture when said second, headed pin is inserted into an enlarged portion of said key slot.

4. (currently amended) The cage of claim 1, further including a top assembly disposed on said side assembly, said top assembly including:

a base frame;

first and second folding end panels pivotally attached to first and second ends, respectively, of said base frame, each of said folding end panels including a U-shaped securing clip disposed at a top thereof; and

first and second top panels, each of said top panels including at least one clip at a bottom thereof for securing said top panel to said base frame and an upper frame tube having first and second ends for reception by said U-shaped securing clip on said first and second end panels, respectively.

5. (original) The cage of claim 4, wherein said first and second end panels are semicircular in shape and said first and second top panels are curved such that said top assembly is in the shape of a half cylinder.

6. (original) The cage of claim 4, wherein said upper frame tube of each of said top panels includes first and second slots, one adjacent each end thereof, which are positioned to receive a tab on said U-shaped securing clip for further securing said top panels to said first and second end panels.

7. (original) The cage of claim 4, further including at least one clamping fastener assembly for clamping said upper frame tubes of said first and second top panels to one another.

8. (original) The cage of claim 7, wherein said clamping fastener assembly includes a hanger depending from a bottom thereof for supporting a toy or other article inside said cage.

9. (currently amended) A cage comprising:
a side panel assembly including a plurality of side panels, each of said side panels being attached to adjacent ones of said side panels; and
a top assembly disposed on said side assembly, said top assembly including:
a base frame;
first and second folding end panels pivotally attached to first and second ends, respectively, of said base frame, each of said folding end panels including a U-shaped securing clip disposed at a top thereof; and
first and second top panels, each of top said panels including at least one clip at a bottom thereof for securing said top panel to said base frame and an upper frame tube having first and second ends for reception by said U-shaped securing clip on said first and second end panels, respectively.

10. (original) The cage of claim 9, wherein said first and second end panels are semicircular in shape and said first and second top panels are curved such that said top assembly is in the shape of a half cylinder.

11. (original) The cage of claim 9, wherein said upper frame tube of each of said top panels includes first and second slots, one adjacent each end thereof, which are positioned to receive a tab on said U-shaped securing clip for further securing said top panels to said first and second end panels.

12. (original) The cage of claim 9, further including at least one clamping fastener assembly for clamping said upper frame tubes of said first and second top panels to one another.

13. (original) The cage of claim 12, wherein said clamping fastener assembly includes a hanger depending from a bottom thereof for supporting a toy or other article inside said cage.

14. (original) The cage of claim 9, wherein said top and side assemblies each includes a horizontal slot in a horizontal frame tube thereof and said cage further includes a locking clip having a first leg for insertion into said horizontal slot in said top assembly and a second leg for insertion into said horizontal slot in said side assembly to thereby secure said top assembly to said side assembly.

15. (currently amended) A cage comprising:

a side panel assembly including a plurality of side panels, each of said side panels being attached to adjacent ones of said side panels; and

a top assembly disposed on said side assembly, said top assembly including:

- a base frame;
- first and second folding end panels pivotally attached to first and second ends, respectively, of said base frame, each of said folding end panels including a U-shaped securing clip disposed at a top thereof; and
- first and second top panels, each of said top panels including at least one clip at a bottom thereof for securing said top panel to said base frame and an upper frame tube having first and second ends for reception by said U-shaped securing clip on said first and second end panels, respectively, each said upper frame tube also including first and second slots, one adjacent each end thereof, which are positioned to receive a tab on said U-shaped securing clip for further securing said top panels to said first and second end panels; and
- at least one clamping fastener assembly for clamping said upper frame tubes of said first and second top panels to one another.

16. (original) The cage of claim 15, wherein said first and second end panels are semicircular in shape and said first and second top panels are curved such that said top assembly is in the shape of a half cylinder.

17. (original) The cage of claim 15, wherein said clamping fastener assembly includes a hanger depending from a bottom thereof for supporting a toy or other article inside said cage.

18. (currently amended) The cage of claim 15, wherein each of said side panels is attached to adjacent ones of said side panels with at least first and second ~~a plurality of~~ fastening elements, said first fastening elements including:

a first pin extending from a first ~~a bottom of one corner of one~~ of said panels; and
an apertured plate extending from a second ~~a bottom corner of an adjacent one~~ of said panels for reception of said first pin; and

said second fastening element including:

a second, headed pin secured to one of said first and second panels; and
a key slot disposed in the other of said first and second ~~an adjacent one of said~~ panels for reception of said second, headed pin.

19. (currently amended) The cage of claim 18, wherein each of said side panels includes a vertical slot in a vertical frame tube thereof and said fastening elements further include a locking clip having a first leg for insertion into one of said vertical slots in one of said side panels and a second leg for insertion into one of said vertical slots in an adjacent one of said panels;

whereby, said adjacent panels are prevented from moving vertically relative to one another by said locking clip.

20. (original) The cage of claim 18, wherein said first pin has a length that facilitates partial insertion of said pin into said aperture when said second, headed pin is inserted into an enlarged portion of said key slot.